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April 12, 2000

via hand delivery

J. Richard Collier, Esq.
General Counsel
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243

RECEIVED

APR 12 2000

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY
GENERAL COUNSEL'S OFFICE

**Re: Joint Petition of TEC Companies and the Consumer Advocate Division
for Approval of Earnings Review Settlement, Docket No. 99-00995
BBS File No. 063995-100**

Dear Richard:

As you may know, on March 23, 2000, counsel for AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc., served discovery requests on the TEC Companies. These discovery requests are wide ranging and seek extensive information from my client. AT&T requested that these discovery requests be answered within 30 days, and that time period will expire on April 24, 2000.

As you also are aware, a pre-hearing conference has not yet been held in this matter and a procedural schedule has not been set. Moreover, there is pending before the Authority a motion by the Consumer Advocate Division for summary judgment as to the matters asserted by AT&T as intervenor.

I spoke to Val Sanford before the Directors' Conference yesterday and asked if his client, AT&T would be willing to postpone my client's obligation to respond to these discovery requests until a procedural schedule has been set requiring such responses. Val expressed a willingness to do so as long as the pre-hearing conference to establish such a schedule is not set too far into the future.

I am bringing this matter to your attention by letter at this time in order to avoid our having to file a motion for a protective order to prevent my client from having to engage in extensive discovery activity before a procedural schedule is set, the scope of discovery is outlined, and the status of the issues raised by AT&T in this matter has been determined. I look forward to hearing from you at your early convenience.

POSTED
4-14-00

J. Richard Collier, Esq.

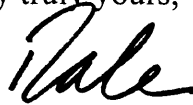
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Dale", written in a cursive style.

R. Dale Grimes

RDG/jm/2104658

cc: Val Sanford, Esq. *(via facsimile 256-6339)*
Vincent Williams, Esq. *(via facsimile 741-8742)*
Mr. Greg Eubanks *(via facsimile 601-352-8830)*
Mr. Tommy Ott *(via facsimile 256-381-2989)*